

INTERNATIONAL PROSECUTION SECTION

EX # 250

DOC NO. 1743

page 1

STATEMENT OF CAPTAIN LIANG TING-FANG

7 April, 1946

I was in the Medical Corps and after the Chinese Army was retreating from Shanghai to Nanking and when we were stationed in WAPING, it appeared that the city would be taken and we were given orders to stay in NANKING and take care of the Chinese wounded, and stay there after the Japanese took the city. We found that the Red Cross was no protection, and therefore dressed in civilian clothes, and we were in a refugee camp when the Japanese took the city. On the sixteenth, we were ordered by the Japanese to proceed to Shsia Kwan, on the Bank of the River YANGTSE, in Nanking. I estimate there were above 5,000 who were marched 4 abreast, and the line was 3/4th of a mile long. When we arrived there we were placed in a line near the River, and on either side of the line there formed and in front of line were machine guns and Japanese soldiers, with the machine gun pointing at the line. There were two trucks carrying rope, and men were tied five in a group with their wrists tied below their backs, and I saw the first men who were shot by rifles in such groups and who were then thrown in the river by the Japanese. There were about 800 Japanese present, including Officers, some of whom were in sedan automobiles. We were lined up on the edge of the river, and before our wrists were bound, my friend saw that rather than die in this way, he would sooner jump in the river and be drowned. We started from the refugee camp about five o'clock in the evening, arrived at the bank of the river about seven o'clock and the binding of the prisoners, and shooting kept up until two o'clock. The moon was shining at the time, and I saw what was happening, and my watch was on my wrist. My friend and I decided to escape after the shooting had been going on for 4 hours, and about eleven o'clock my friend and I made a dash for the river, and jumped in. The machine guns fired at us, but we were not hit. There was a steep bank of the river, and as we found the water was only waist deep we hid under the steep bank, and the shadow prevented the Japs from seeing us. However, they fired at us with machine guns, and shot me in the shoulder. The shooting of prisoners kept up until 2 o'clock in the morning. I fainted from loss of blood, and when I awakened in the morning, my friend was gone. He afterwards told me he thought I was dead. I then crawled up the river bank, and hid in a hut nearby. This was after two o'clock, but before sunrise. I stayed in the hut for three days without food or water, and then a Japanese soldier came up and burnt the hut. When the hut was being burnt I crawled out, and the Japanese soldier found me. One of the officers questioned me, and I told him I was a civilian, and was a coolie hired by the Japanese Army to carry burdens.

STATEMENT OF CAPTAIN LIANG TING-FANG:

The officer did not ask me about my wound. The officer gave me a pass to go home, and I did so.

When they were lining up the men at the refugee camp several Americans whose names I do not know, tried to prevent the Japanese from marching us to the river, but they were ordered away, and were unsuccessful in preventing the massacre.

There were a few other cases of persons who jumped into the river, but the Japanese at once shot at them, and I do not know if any of them got away. As far as I know, my friend and I were the only two to escape. During the shooting I heard one young man call out "Long live China", but no other sound except the shooting.

I finally got back to Free China after being captured once again, but I got away to Free China in June, 1938.

I had this statement translated to me by Colonel TU, and the statement is correct.

Witness:

THOMAS H. MORROW

COLONEL TU YING-KUANG

April 7, 1946.